



# Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Asa Hutchinson  
José R. Romero, MD, Secretary of Health

## **PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE RULES PERTAINING TO SEPTIC TANK CLEANERS**

**November 16, 2021**

### **BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to A.C.A. § 17-45-101-105 the Department has authority to promulgate the Rules Pertaining to Septic Tank Cleaners. These rules set standards for the business of cleaning and transportation of septic tanks in Arkansas.

### **KEY POINTS**

The proposed rule:

- Makes updates to comply with 2021 legislation
- Adds alternate methods of record keeping.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Rules Pertaining to Septic Tank Cleaning Operations within the State of Arkansas are duly adopted and promulgated by the Arkansas State Board of Health pursuant to the laws of the State of Arkansas including, Act 71 of 1973 as amended (Ark. Code Ann. § 17-45-101-105) and Act 96 of 1913 (Ark. Code Ann. § 20-7-101, et seq.).

The following changes and updates are proposed:

1. Updated rule to reflect requirements of Act 135 of the 2021 General Assembly.
2. Updated rule to reflect changes Act 725 of the 2021 General Assembly.
3. Section C. added requirement to review land application sites and soil testing every five years.
4. Section C. added clarification when a storage tank is required for a Cleaner.
5. Section C. changed set back from sinkholes to 100 feet.
  
6. Section H. added wording for alternate methods of record keeping.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend that the proposed amendments to the Rules Pertaining to Septic Tank Cleaners in Arkansas be approved as proposed by the Department.